

In the claims:

All claims standing for examination in the above-referenced case are reproduced below.

1-15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently amended) A system for delivering emails to a user, comprising:

- a network-connected server for receiving and processing the emails;
- a data base at the network server for storing user preferences used by the network-connected server for processing the emails;
- a wireless transmission facility in communication with the network-connected server, for transmitting the emails; and

- a portable playback device enabled for connection to a user computer and receiving the emails transmitted by the transmission facility and to display the emails as text to the user;

wherein the server transmits emails to the user computer for download to the portable device via the network while the device is connected to the user computer, and upon disconnection of the portable device from the user computer the ~~wireless transmission facility~~ server is instructed by code sent from the user computer to transmit the emails directly to the portable device via the wireless transmission facility.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein the network is the Internet network.

19. (Previously presented) A method for delivering multimedia emails to a user, comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving the multimedia emails on a network by a network-connected server;

- (b) storing user preferences at a database at the network-connected server;
- (c) processing the emails at the network-connected server by accessing the user preferences;
- (d) transmitting individual ones of the emails over the network by the network-connected server;
- (e) receiving the transmitted emails at a user computer for download to a portable playback device connected to the user computer, and displaying the emails on a display of the playback device; and
- (f) editing the user preferences via direct communication from the playback device;

wherein the network-connected server transmits emails to the user computer for download to the portable device via the network while the device is connected to the user computer, and upon disconnection of the portable device from the user computer the network-connected server is instructed by code sent from the user computer to transmit the emails directly to the portable device by a wireless transmission facility.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the network is the Internet network.